

# At what AGE is WOMAN MOST BEAUTIFUL?



MRS. HENRY D. CLAYTON

**W**OE to beautiful ideals, long nurtured and jealously guarded! An old woman is handsome, wrinkles are becoming, and a dash of rouge no more is a crime against the symphony of feminine loveliness.

Evil days have befallen the traditional "bloom of youth," "chestnut tresses" and the soulful "brown orbs" of which poets have sung immemorial. Grandmother at last is coming into her own. She is ensconced upon an artistic pedestal for the edification of those "snips of girlhood" who have the temerity to hint "she was handsome in her day." She's a beauty right now, thank you!

Mother and grandmother owe their idealistic rejuvenation to the New York men whose stock in trade is feminine loveliness—the artists who paint and etch and model. They've taken us down a bit, those of us who rave of fair hair, bewitching eyes, peach-bloom tints and aquiline features. For on this single point they are unison:

A woman can be beautiful at fifty. Harken to what Harrison Fisher, Irvin Wiles, Edwin Blashfield and Victor D. Brenner say. This galaxy of illustrators, painter, mural decorator and sculptor has come to the defense of physical beauty in a woman past the middle span of life. They've all seen matrons and spinsters who were handsome when the half-century post had faded on the ten-year distant horizon.

Cheer up, mothers, grandmothers, aunts and cousins—you whose silver-sprinkled tresses droop over sylvan folds of face and brow! What matters it if nature rebels at the strain of busy life and sears your velvet cheeks with the inevitable wrinkles of motherly devotion? You're handsome still!

The fair debutante may appeal to the eye for beauty no more than her mother from whom the color of buoyant youth has flown; whose flesh has lost the satin gloss of girlhood days; whose tender lips have compressed in the firmness that comes of mental strength and mature character.

None the less is the artistic eye today appreciative of vivacious girlhood with its luminous flesh and radiant nature. But it has turned to another quarter for a type of beauty that has survived from the birth of man, but never shone resplendent in the light of public approval.

The mature woman—she who has the fullness of life, the mental development and the strong force of character written in every line of her countenance—has been called beautiful. She has been striving for this verdict for centuries and centuries, but only now has her day of reckoning with youth come. She can match her charms with her sex in its teens and stand before the modern day court of art without fear or favor. The middle and the past middle-aged women of New York have heard the verdict. You are beautiful!

Victor D. Brenner, sculptor, who knows the soft and pleasing lines of figure as well as he knows the face, is to the fore as the most outspoken and uncompromising indorse of this new viewpoint in art. "All women are to be admired," he put it generally, and declares that femininity in every condition of servitude and age has points for artistic admiration.

The poetic has its place in Sculptor Brenner's reasoning as much as the hard and fast rules for physical perfection. He personifies the time-worn adage: "Beauty is only skin deep." Beneath the flesh, beneath the walls of muscle and the frame of bone goes Sculptor Brenner for his ideals. Mentality, morality and warmth of heart are all his prescribed ingredients for the most beautiful woman.

"Beauty all depends upon the viewpoint of the individual sculptor," declares Mr. Brenner. "He is influenced by the nature of his subject, by the task he has before him. If beauty of childhood is his theme, then his whole heart and soul are wrapped in the infinite lines of tenderness and delight to be found in early youth.

"If the sculptor seeks the poetry of spring-time, he perchance requisitions beauty of an age from eighteen to twenty. He none the less appreciates this bloom of early life and it can't help but draw forth his admiration.

"From twenty-five to thirty I might classify as another type of beauty; a beauty that is beginning to bloom in all its radiance, fully developed



MISS HELEN COX



MRS. FRANCIS BROWN

and taking on the richness of a valley flower before the touch of withering heat.

"From thirty-five to forty takes us to a period where the average human unschooled in more than a superficial appreciation of beauty might remark that voluptuousness was giving way to the ravages of age. I have found many, many beautiful between the ages of thirty-five and forty—positively handsome.

"This brings us to the half-century mark, where woman has all the strength of character imparted by a lifetime of observation. Here enters personal magnetism, a factor which figures largely in the determination of beauty. If face, form and temperament harmonize, she is placed in the category of the lovely.

"I have seen women fifty years old who I considered exceedingly handsome."

Edwin Blashfield, mural decorator, says: "There are four types or ages of beauty—children, who are most handsome; youth, between the ages of sixteen and nineteen; middle age, ranging from twenty-five to thirty, and women who are mounting the ladder of time toward the half-century mark.

"I have seen many handsome women at forty-five and fifty. Sometimes wrinkles are exceedingly beautiful in women of that age. Persons who use their brains a great deal in after life generally are exceedingly attractive. Wrinkles enhance this type.

"I have no particular choice of beauty as regards age. I use models from nineteen to thirty, but by no means do I consider they are the embodiment of all that is beautiful."

Harrison Fisher, illustrator, has his personal tastes as regards the age of charming women. "I prefer the beauty of a woman from sixteen to twenty-eight," he says. "Between those periods of life I consider her the most charming because she embodies all the spirit of youth, the innocence of girlhood and lacks the veneer of worldliness that comes to a woman later in life. But I am not deceiving the attractions of older women. I have seen them at thirty and thirty-five and even forty whom I consider more handsome than girls. I know women of fifty who I consider embody all the elements of general beauty. They may have lost some of the fairness of their girlhood days, but they have made up for it in physical development, in mental sharpness and in the strong characteristics of the face.

"There are so many good-looking women in New York it's hard to pick out any particular beauty of any type or of any age. Women all are to be admired."

Irvin Wiles, eminent portrait painter, who has daily opportunities to observe types of beauty, is more lenient as to advanced age than either Mr. Fisher, Mr. Brenner or Mr. Blashfield.

"I have seen women who were handsome at seventy," he declared. "A woman at thirty may be far more handsome than one at fifteen or eighteen. They say age is no respecter of beauty, but you may reverse it and remark that beauty is no respecter of age. Much of the secret of beauty depends upon the physical and mental care a woman takes of herself. The portrait painter does not look so much for beauty in his subject as he does for the medium that permits



MISS CLAIRE CLAYTON



MISS MARGARET CAPERTON

him to emphasize beauty. Of course the majority of our sitters want us to paint them as beautiful as is consistent with the laws of art. A woman of thirty has developed. She has learned the value of dress, how to attire herself in a manner that enhances any physical charms she may possess. Girlhood lacks the development of more mature age. Therefore, a woman of thirty may present a far more attractive appearance than the girl in her teens or just past the twenty mark.

"The woman beauty at fifty is less in evidence than the handsome feminine in her teens or below the age of thirty. But I have seen handsome women at fifty; women whose features, whose personalities and whose physical development struck me as being amazingly handsome.

"From my view I don't think dress has much to do with good looks. The true lover of beauty gazes and can enthuse over cut of features and tint of complexion without dwelling on clothes. I consider a woman between the age of eighteen and twenty to be in the bloom of youth. Naturally, youth is attractive; it is like a rose in its brilliancy beneath a light morning dew."

## UNMISTAKABLE EVIDENCE.

"Those seeds you sold me for flower seeds were nothing but weed seeds."

"Come up, have they?"

"Of course not; I only planted them day before yesterday."

"Then how do you know they are weed seeds?"

"The neighbors' chickens won't dig them up."

## PLANNING AND PLANNING.

"I am planning a trip to the Panama canal."

"That so? So is President Wilson."

"But the trip he is planning is altogether different from the one I am planning."

"That so?"

"Yes, he's going."

## WRITING THAT PAYS.

"What does this young fellow write? I won't have my daughter married to a starving author."

"Off the handle, as usual, dad. That young chap wrote \$400,000 worth of life insurance last year."

## A FREQUENT HAPPENING.

"We don't do as we should. For one thing we are told to love our enemies."

"A great many of us live up to that. Didn't you ever notice a couple of society leaders kissing each other?"

## BOOSTS TAX VALUES OF THE RAILROADS

Ohio Commission Announces Figures for 1913.

LINES WORTH \$665,074,810

Largest Single Increase Is Made in Connection With the New York Central—L. S. & M. S. Also Will Pay More.

Special Columbus Correspondent.

Columbus, Ohio.

FEW years ago Ohio's railroads were on the tax duplicate for only 25 per cent of their true value, if the brand new railroad tax valuations just made public by the Ohio tax commission, are to be taken as a criterion. The new valuations show that the steam roads in Ohio are worth \$665,074,810 in the tax commission's opinion. This is an increase of \$33,000,000 over the valuations of last year. But in 1910 the valuations of the railroads were made by local officials, the combined aggregate valuation of the roads was only \$167,453,818, or about one-fourth of the valuation of today. In the present year's valuations, the biggest single increase is made in connection with the New York Central lines. Last year these lines were assessed at \$147,289,670. This year the figures are \$162,747,290, an increase of more than \$15,000,000. Included in these lines are the Cincinnati Northern, the Big Four, the Cleveland Short Line, the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, the Toledo & Ohio Central and several others. The greatest increase on any individual road is that on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern which gets a boost of nearly \$10,000,000. The grounds for the general increase in the various steam road assessments are increased earnings and betterments.

### Street and Suburban Roads.

Hearings relating to the new valuations of street, suburban and inter-urban roads, electric light plants, natural and artificial gas companies, pipe line companies, water works, water transportation companies, messenger and signal companies and other utilities in this general group also have been completed by the state tax commission, although the steam road valuations are the first to be announced to the public. It is understood that an increase in valuations is to be made all the way down the line in spite of the flood damage which many of the utilities encountered. The increased earnings and betterments of the various different sorts of utilities are believed easily to have offset losses suffered through the flood.

### Donahay Wrestling With Problem.

Auditor of State Donahay is wrestling with the problem of how to refund the unearned portion of the Alkin tax paid by saloons put out of business by the spring floods. The special law enacted for the relief of the saloon men provides that the refunder shall be made by the county, but the auditor thinks in equity that that each political subdivision which gets a portion of the tax should refund its pro rata share and that the county should not be called upon to pay it all. He has taken the question up with the attorney general's department, and meantime the semi-annual settlements of the counties are being held up. Mr. Donahay believes the special law is invalid.

### Bitter Criticism Heard.

Rather bitter criticisms are being heard here of the action of the governor in following the recommendation of the state pardon board and in commuting to life imprisonment the death sentence of Harry Brown, Toledo negro murderer. Brown killed Mrs. Green, a white woman, and was sentenced to electrocution next Friday. When Brown was sought out by the warden of the penitentiary to be told the news of his good fortune he was asleep on a cot in the death chamber. "Oh, Ho-Hum, much obliged Warden," was all the negro said and in the words he seemed to express not the slightest feeling. The warden had hardly turned to go before the negro had turned over on his cot and gone to sleep again. Seven other prisoners have profited by the governor's action in following the recommendations of the pardon board. Some are pardoned outright while others benefit by having their terms appreciably shortened.

### Would Appoint Woman.

Gov. Cox wants to know from the attorney general if it will be possible to appoint a woman as member of the new state commission which will have the duty of censoring moving picture shows. It is believed the governor has in mind the naming of a woman as one of the members.

### Lets Armory Contract.

The state army board has let the

### Would Evade Weight Law.

To evade compliance with the new law requiring the sale of produce by weight, 50 to 125 hucksters at Toledo and other cities have prepared a printed agreement which they are asking their customers to sign, waiving the requirements of the law. There is a provision in the law that sale by weight shall be mandatory except in the event of explicit agreement of waiver between the seller and buyer. City Sealer Wilfong of Toledo has issued a statement, urging buyers not to sign the agreement.

contract for the erection of a new National Guard armory at Sidney to H. L. Loudensbach, a contractor of that city, at a bid of \$18,220.57. The maximum amount that can be spent for a company armory is \$20,000. The new structure will be occupied by Company L of the Third regiment. It is the first new armory authorized this year.

### Finds Abuses of School Lands.

Grave and almost unbelievable abuses involving school lands in Ohio are being reported by the Ohio school survey. The survey has taken the case of one county as an instance and proceeds to show just what is being done in that county regarding lands originally set apart for schools and still generally supposed to be used for school purposes. For example, the treasurer and the clerk in one of the townships have recently built upon school lands but have made no effort to pay any rent. The mayor of a village also has built upon a part of the school grounds and pays no rent. The treasurer of another township has collected no rents since 1907 and is still holding the funds collected at that time instead of making the proper distribution of the funds to the various school boards. In the same county the auditor was very dense in his understanding of the law governing school lands and is not making the appointments of trustees which he is supposed to make when trustees are not elected. Therefore many of the trusteeships are vacant. It is found also that parcels of the lands have repeatedly changed hands and the present occupants claim to have clear titles, although the land has never been sold by the trustees to any purchasers. There are 64 persons occupying the lands in one of the townships at present and all of them claim ownership but when confronted with the facts, they all have admitted that they are merely taking a chance at becoming the ultimate owners. They explain that since no collections for rent have been made for many years they had come to believe that the whole school land proposition had been dropped.

### Don't Want Son Released.

The unusual spectacle of a father protesting against the release of his son from the penitentiary was presented when John F. Hazel of Toledo saw Gov. Cox Friday afternoon and asked him not to comply with the recommendation of the state pardon board that his 23-year-old son, Don Harvey Hazel, serving a life sentence for the brutal murder of his mother, be pardoned. The board said it thought the son was innocent of the crime. That his father does not agree with this view is indicated by his protest. The son confessed after arrest that he hit his mother over the head with a hammer and killed her to get money. He said that he was helping her with the dishes and when she stooped at the sink, he beat her over the head. Afterwards the claim was made in his defense that the confession was wrong from him by duress.

### Lays Down New Rules.

Auditor of State Donahay has laid down some new rules for all state officials and employees, and if they do not comply they will get no pay, because he will refuse to honor their vouchers. He has notified each department to furnish him with a roster of each employee, giving the address, official title, nature of duties and a statement on the educational and other qualifications of each official and employee. As, no doubt, the auditor is not making fish of one department and fowl of another, he will probably exact this information from the governor's office, subject to the same conditions laid down for the other departments. It is presumed that the order will also extend to the auditor's own department, and that he himself will file information on his own educational qualifications for the official records. Some state officials look askance on the order, and wondering if Donahay can legally hold up their pay if they refuse to do his bidding.

### Expert Draftsman Is Dropped.

Amos H. Sawyer, for the past 22 years an expert draftsman in the department, will be let out of the state department of public works, having been advised by Superintendent John I. Miller that his services will not be needed after this week. Sawyer has executed the commission of every governor from the Campbell to the Cox administration, and also those of most of the United States senators elected from Ohio during that period. He is skilled in the use of the pen. His removal is an example of the mutations of politics.

### Women's Nine Hour Law.

State Shop Inspector Kearns has his entire force of inspectors, including the women visitors, at his office for a conference on the new women's nine hour law, child labor law and mothers' pension law, all of which impose additional duties upon this department. "We are trying to get in a state of preparedness for these laws," said Inspector Kearns. "It will be somewhat difficult for a time to get them working smoothly, but with the co-operation of the public this will ultimately be accomplished."

### State Jobs Are Given.

Supreme Court Reporter E. O. Randall has appointed Edmond S. Nichols, Democrat, and L. W. Henney, Republican, assistants in his department, under provision of the new judiciary law. The new constitution throws additional work on the supreme court reporter, as he now is compelled to report cases of the courts of appeal. The new positions pay \$2,000 a year salary. Charles Justice of Youngstown was named official stenographer. Justice is a Democrat. Henney and Nichols both live in Columbus.